

[2 March, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

lakh per district. The Package involves a total amount of Rs. 16978.69 crore consisting of Rs. 10579.43 crore as subsidy/grants and Rs. 6399.26 crore as loan. District wise break-up of the package is not maintained at the central level. However, the state wise break-up is as under:

Andhra Pradesh	—	Rs 9650.55 crore
Karnataka	—	Rs. 2689.64 crore
Kerala	—	Rs. 765.24 crore
Maharashtra	—	Rs. 3873.26 crore

#### **Relief package for Vidarbha**

\*66. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only a paltry sum has been released, so far, out of Rs. 3750 crores special relief package for six districts of Vidarbha announced by the Prime Minister on July 1, last year; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reason for not releasing the package fund as yet?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) The Government of India has sanctioned a rehabilitation package of Rs. 3873.26 crore for six districts of Maharashtra in Vidarbha region. This includes both subsidy/grant and loan component. Various items of assistance covered by this amount are ex-gratia assistance from Prime Minister's National Relief Fund (PMNRF), interest waiver, assured irrigation, seed replacement, watershed development, micro irrigation, horticulture development, extension services, and subsidiary income services. As per the available information, an amount of about Rs. 1530 crore has already been released for implementation of the package in Maharashtra. Keeping in view the schedule of implementation of the package, the released amount is satisfactory.

#### **Adoption of G.M. crops**

†\*67. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a state of confusion amongst the farmers of the country regarding adoption of GM. crops;

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.